

NIVELLE TAKES THREE LINES ON AILETTE FRONT

French Capture German Defenses in Offensive Against Laon

PARIS REPORTS GAINS IN VAUCLERC SECTOR

"Violent Attacks" Carry Allied Troops Forward in Chevreux Sector

LULL ON BRITISH FRONT

By HENRY WOOD WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES IN THE CHAMPAGNE, May 23.

French troops, pushing their offensive for the domination of the Ailette Valley, leading to Laon, captured three lines of trenches today.

PARIS BLOW HALTS GREAT GERMAN DRIVE

By HENRY WOOD WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES AT THE CHAMPAGNE FRONT, May 23.

General Nivelle's new offensive, begun Sunday and thunderously continuing, forestalled a gigantic German counter-offensive move.

Prisoners from German lines revealed the enemy plans today. Their explanation...



HUNGARIAN PREMIER OUT Resignation of Count Stephen Tisza, leader of the ministry, is announced in press dispatches from Budapest.

HUNGARIAN MINISTRY RESIGNS UNDER ATTACKS; VIENNA AGAIN PLANS PEACE OFFER TO RUSSIA

Tisza Reported Out—Austria to Give Dardanelles, Poland and Loan to Petrograd—May Break With Berlin

Germany Again Intriguing to Gain Conquests—Takes Up "No Annexation" Cry as Mask—Ribot Insists on Alsace-Lorraine and Indemnity. Socialists Prepare to Meet

The ball of peace is kept rolling in Europe. Thus far no nation—with the exception, perhaps, of Russia—has taken any definite stand on the subject, but statements and counter-statements by statesmen and semi-official spokesmen are being made for home and foreign consumption.

The most important of today's reports is that Austria-Hungary will soon make a "generous" offer of peace to Russia. Her terms, it is said, will include the freedom of the Dardanelles, the restoration of Poland, and, possibly, a large loan.

The resignation of Count Tisza, Hungarian Premier, and his Cabinet, is reported from Amsterdam. If true, the report is of extreme importance, in view of the fact that Count Tisza, Berlin's most trusted instrument in the dual monarchy, has been under severe attack from the Hungarian and peace factions.

While one report says that Austria's plan of a separate peace with Russia is the result of conferences between Berlin and Vienna officials, the resignation of Count Tisza and his Cabinet indicates that Austria's move may be an independent one and the result of serious internal troubles, a desperate need for the cessation of the war.

Amsterdam asserts that the Central Empires have made another direct peace offer to the Allies and that it was rejected by the latter. There is no confirmation of this report.

Germany is reported to have renewed her propaganda for a Teuton peace. She is said to be seeking to pin her adversaries down to some concrete move by taking up the cry of "no annexations and no indemnities." This formula, however, is interpreted by her in a way which if put into practical application would result in a "Hindenburg peace," giving Germany some valuable additions of territory.

It is reported that German agents in neutral countries have been ordered to govern themselves accordingly in their agitation.

What is regarded as a statement of extreme importance was the one made by Premier Ribot of France in the Chamber of Deputies. Ribot expressed sympathy with the Russian slogan of "no forcible annexations and no punitive indemnities," but coupled it with the previous stand of the Allies for "restitution, reparation and guarantees." He gave what is regarded as France's terms of peace: The restoration of Alsace-Lorraine to France and the payment of an indemnity by Germany. He expressed full satisfaction with the recent declarations of the Russian Government, but exhorted the Russians to resume the offensive in order to impose their terms of peace upon the Central Empires.

The United States will soon issue a statement in reply to Russia's recent declarations. The statement, it is understood, will follow closely the policy indicated by Ribot.

Count Hertling, Bavarian Premier, who has often been mentioned as a

QUICK NEWS

MEXICANS CAUGHT SMUGGLING MUNITIONS

EL PASO, Tex., May 23.—Caught in the act of passing large quantities of munitions across the Rio Grande into Mexico three Mexicans were arrested near Fabens, Tex., last night, border patrol troops of the Eighth United States Cavalry reported today. Twenty Mexicans have been arrested for the same offense along the border this week.

MANN SAYS HE'LL VOTE AGAINST WAR TAX BILL

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Republican Leader Mann announced in the House this afternoon that he would vote against the war tax bill because "it attempts to raise too much money by direct taxes."

TREASURY CERTIFICATES SUBSCRIPTION CLOSED

The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia announced this afternoon that the subscription lists for the United States Treasury 3-1-4 per cent certificates were closed at 2 o'clock.

SAMUEL REA FAVORS U. S. REGULATION OF PURCHASES

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The Interstate Commerce Commission today opened a hearing to shippers on the 15 per cent advance rate in freight. Samuel Rea, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, the first witness, said he favored Government regulation of the purchase of railroad supplies.

TOMMIES HAIL NEWS OF PERSHING'S COMING

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN THE FIELD, May 23.—The Tommies got word today that General Pershing's seasoned veterans were soon to be fighting with them. "Well, the Kaiser's got another disagreeable surprise coming to him," remarked one mud-covered bombardier from the front trench as he rolled back of the lines for rest. "He probably didn't figure on how quickly the United States could put forces into the fight." Everywhere along the front, soldiers and officers alike, hailed the news with delight.

LISBON UNDER MARTIAL LAW TO QUELL FOOD RIOTS

PARIS, May 23.—Martial Law has been declared in Lisbon, Portugal, as the result of food riots there, according to a dispatch received here today.

SNOW AND ICE HIT MICHIGAN

CALUMET, Mich., May 23.—Northern Michigan was visited by a cold wave, accompanied by a heavy snowstorm today. Ice is forming in Lake Superior from Keweenaw Point east beyond Marquette.

FOUR DUTCH VILLAGES WIPED OUT BY FIRE

AMSTERDAM, May 23.—A great fire is raging in Drenthe Province, which borders on Germany. Four villages have been wiped out and the flames are spreading. The fire started in a peat bog.

AMERICAN WAR AVIATOR WINS BRITISH CROSS

PARIS, May 23.—Adjutant Raoul Luffberry, of New York, premier "ace" in the Lafayette Escadrille, was today awarded the British military cross by direction of King George of England.

BANKS REPORT HUGE SALES OF LIBERTY BONDS

Philadelphia Heeds Call of Uncle Sam to Help Win War

MILLIONS IN WILMINGTON

Uncle Sam asked Philadelphia to lend him \$175,000,000 to kill Prussianism.

Philadelphia has responded with such an outburst of patriotism that the echo is carried direct to the Kaiser. Action and not words is this city's slogan when the principles of the Old Liberty Bell are at stake, and this is what happened today concerning the Liberty Bond campaign. Here is how:

The Franklin National Bank announced to the General Committee that it had received applications amounting to more than \$2,250,000 and that this figure represented small subscriptions ranging from \$50 to \$1000.

Then came the Fidelity Trust Company with the report that its clients had subscribed for more than \$1,500,000 of the loan.

Before these amounts were tabulated Johnson Ward, appeared at headquarters "Wilmington bankers," he announced, "are organized for an active campaign and assure us that they will sell \$15,000,000 of the Liberty Bonds. That will represent Delaware's share in the Philadelphia district campaign."

These were the striking features of the day's activities, but not a dull moment was recorded by the general committee. Genuine "pep" was injected into the campaign at a meeting of the trained bond salesman in the Bellevue-Stratford shortly

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KING GEORGE GREETES U. S. HOSPITAL FORCE

His Majesty and Queen Shake Hands With 20 Doctors and 60 Nurses

LONDON, May 23. King George, Queen Mary and the Princess Mary today formally received Major Gilchrist, twenty surgeons, sixty nurses and five stenographers composing the first American army medical unit to land in England en route to the front.

The British royal family informally shook hands with every one of the Americans and chatted with the doctors and nurses.

"It is with the utmost pleasure and satisfaction," the King said, in a formal speech, "that the Queen and I welcome the first detachment of the American army landed on our shores since the great republic resolved to join in the world's struggle for the ideals of its civilization."

"It is characteristic of the humanity and chivalry ever evinced by America that the nation's first assistance to the Allies should be in connection with a profession under the head of work of mercy."

Ambassador Page made the presentations of the doctors and nurses. Some of the latter were noticeably flustered, but for the most part the girls kept cool heads. Some of them, at the head of the line, tried to accomplish a courtesy, but failed miserably. Behind, noting such failures, confined themselves to mere bows as the King and Queen shook hands democratically with them.

For the first time in the history of Buckingham Palace, also, the reception of the American medical unit was the occasion for a grant of special permission to newspapermen to witness the presentation.

8000-TON U. S. SHIP VICTIM OF U-BOAT

Merchantman, With Cargo to Swiss, Sunk in Mediterranean

PARIS, May 23. An 8000-ton American ship, carrying a cargo destined for Switzerland, has been torpedoed and sunk in the Mediterranean, it was announced today. The name of the vessel was not given.

Inquiry of American shipping this afternoon developed the belief that the ship sunk was one of the German liners recently seized here and pressed into service of the United States merchant marine.

One shipping authority said the only vessel of anywhere near 8000 tons which he knew was in the Mediterranean was one of these German ships, which sailed recently bearing a cargo for Italy.

AMERICANS SAVED ON TWO VICTIMS OF SUBMARINES

NEW YORK, May 23.—Sinking of the British steamships Hackensack and Thistledard by German submarines, but with rescue of Americans aboard those vessels, was reported by travelers in New York today.

The Hackensack was en route to a British port from America. She was torpedoed and sunk the day after she had picked up survivors of the Swedish sailing ship Valkyrie and the Norwegian sailing ship Vestdal. The Vestdal was sunk by shell fire from a U-boat. John Wilson, of Pensacola, Fla., was rescued from the Hackensack.

Claire Felton, of Norfolk, and Louis McNeil, of Philadelphia, were two American survivors of the Thistledard. The ship was the victim of an unwarmed torpedo attack and sank in four minutes, but with no casualties.

EXPLAINS WILSON TERM "SPECIAL GRIEVANCE"

Senator Lewis Clarifies Meaning of President's Phrase, Misunderstood by Some Persons

WASHINGTON, May 23. In a remarkable speech today Senator Lewis, Illinois, replied to critics of President Wilson's speech to the directors of the American Red Cross in which the President said this country had "no special grievance" upon entering the war.

"There has been a great misapprehension as to what the President meant," Lewis said. "I believe I may say to assist this country has no one particular grievance, but did have broad grounds—world democracy and the rights of mankind."

Lewis said if the present "misapprehension" were allowed to continue the Government would have difficulty floating its bonds and pursuing its military program.

Lewis declared the President "suffered unfortunate experiences" when he spoke exclusively and referred to the Philadelphia addresses in which the President declared the United States might be "too proud to fight."

Declaring that many people in Illinois had received circulars from a certain agency setting forth the President's idea that "no grievance" is held by this country in the war, Lewis said:

"The interrogation will blaze up before the eyes of the people: 'Why sacrifice the children? Why give the money? Why bankrupt the future? Why have this food control and apparent dictatorship upon the events and conduct of mankind in America?'"

ARMY TO SPEND \$118,000,000 FOR AUTO TRUCKS

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The War Department has set aside \$118,000,000 for the purchase of autotrucks for the army. Bids for 35,000 1 1/2-ton trucks, 30,000 3-ton trucks and 5000 motorcycles will be opened in Chicago between June 8 and 11 next.

NORWAY AROUSED BY SINKING OF THREE MORE SHIPS

CHRISTIANIA, May 23.—Three more Norwegian merchant ships have been sunk by German submarines, bringing the relations between this country and Germany to the breaking point. It was said that loss of life attended the destruction of the ships. The names of the vessels were not made known.

SINKING MAY BRING BRAZIL INTO WAR

RIO DE JANEIRO, May 23.—President Braz called a special meeting of the Cabinet today to discuss the sinking, presumably by a German submarine, of the Brazilian steamship Tijuca. Public excitement is at the highest pitch in view of almost universal belief that Brazil will change her break with Germany into a declaration of war.

RUSSIAN MUSSULMAN'S FAVOR "FEDERAL REPUBLIC"

MOSCOW, May 23.—A congress of Mussulmans, with delegates from all over Russia, adopted by a vote of 446 to 271 today a resolution favoring institution of a "federated republic" in Russia.

RAILROAD EARNINGS IN MARCH SHOWED \$10,000,000 LOSS

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Railroad earnings dropped off nearly \$10,000,000 in March, 1917, as compared with March, 1916, according to figures on net earnings of the 137 principal steam roads of the United States, made public today by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The southern roads were the only ones to show a gain. In March, 1917, the American railroads earned \$73,574,537 as compared with \$83,145,225 in 1916. Eastern roads earned \$27,219,254 in March this year, and \$34,243,599 in March, 1916. Western roads earned \$32,339,609 in March, 1917 as compared with \$24,945,713 in March of last year. The southern railroads earned \$14,941,174 in March of this year, as compared with \$13,957,003 last year.

THE WEATHER

FORECAST For Philadelphia and vicinity—Unsettled this afternoon; partly cloudy and colder tonight; Thursday fair and cool; fresh westerly winds.

Table with columns for Length of Day, Delaware River Tide Changes, and Temperature at Each Hour.

WEATHER CLEARING, DESPITE WARNING

Storm warnings issued in Washington for display of signals along the coast from Eastport, Me., to Tybee Island, Ga., will not be borne out by disturbances in and about Philadelphia, local Weather Bureau officials said today. The storm warnings are for shipping only, and caution mariners against high winds. Rain in Philadelphia is virtually over and a clearing is in sight, it was predicted.

Willard D. Straight Gets Commission WASHINGTON, May 23.—Willard D. Straight, president of the International Bank of Commerce, New York, and formerly an officer of J. P. Morgan & Co. today was commissioned a major in the adjutant-general's reserve corps.

DEPARTURE OF FRENCH COMMISSIONERS FROM U. S. KEPT SECRET BY VOLUNTARY CENSORSHIP OF PRESS

PARIS, May 23. Marshal Joffre and former Premier Viviani arrived in Paris this evening, completing their mission to the United States.

Marshal Joffre, Vice Premier Viviani and other members of the French war commission sailed from New York May 13. Their departure was kept such a close secret under the voluntary censorship that it was generally believed the Frenchmen were still in Washington. They sailed on the same steamship that brought them over.

MAN'S BODY FOUND IN RIVER

The body of an unidentified man was found floating in the Delaware River off Arch street "about this morning. There were no distinguishing marks about the clothing or body. The description given by the police follows: Height, five feet and seven inches; age, about forty-five years; smooth shaven, dark suit, black lace shoes and pink shirt. The body is at the morgue.

500 Villistas Surrender WASHINGTON, May 23.—Five hundred Villistas have surrendered to Carranza forces at Chihuahua, according to information reaching the State Department today.

DELAY DENIED TO P. R. T. IN TRANSIT CASE

Senate Committee's Acting Head Sets Hearing for Tuesday

IGNORES BALLARD PLEA

Director Twining Refuses to Say What Next Move Will Be

The Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company will have an opportunity to present its reasons for opposing the four measures now pending in the Legislature at a hearing before the Judiciary General Committee in Harrisburg next Tuesday afternoon.

Senator August F. Daix, Jr., acting chairman of the committee, who presided at the hearing yesterday when the city's arguments in favor of the measures were presented, telegraphed to Ellis Ames Ballard, chief counsel for the company, today that the company would be heard on that date.

Earlier today Senator Daix had announced that he would let the company choose Tuesday or Wednesday of next week to present its case. Following conferences with other members of the committee, however, the following telegram was sent to Mr. Ballard:

"Your letter of May 21 received in reference to transit bills. You requested a postponement. We have heard your case Tuesday, May 22, at 2:30 o'clock in the Senate caucus room."

Fixing the date on Tuesday proves that the committee is not disposed to arrange matters to suit the convenience of the transit company, for in Mr. Ballard's letter yesterday, requesting the postponement, he asked that the hearing be set for some date other than Tuesday.

As Mr. Ballard was not in the city today, it could not be learned whether the company would agree to appear on Tuesday after having asked for some other date.

The move of the company yesterday in making an eleven-hour request for a further hearing was roundly denounced by Senator Daix as a move for obstruction and delay. He also declared today that he would use every effort to have the bills reported from committee and passed in their original form.

In spite of the unexpected opposition to the bills from the Penrose-McNichol faction in the Legislature, both Director Twining and Finance Committee Chairman Gaffney joined today in optimistic prophecies over the future of the bills and expressed their satisfaction as to the results of the hearing.

TWINING ENCOURAGED "I feel that the hearing yesterday," said the Director, "impresses the committee very favorably with the importance of this legislation from the city's standpoint and also with the fairness of the various measures. I feel greatly encouraged and believe that the city stands a good chance now of getting this legislation."

"The city's position is clearly stated now for the first time officially and the important bearing these bills have upon the lease negotiations is understood plainly by all."

"The United Business Men's Association deserves great credit for the interest and enthusiasm evidenced yesterday by the delegation which went to Harrisburg and by those who spoke for the association before the Senate Committee."

"I hope the hearing for the other side will be set at as early a date as possible, in order that any move for delay may be defeated and in order that there will be ample time to have the bills reported from the Senate Committee."